

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CU-02 SS-15 SSO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 H-02

L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 SCA-01 EB-07 /062 R

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P R 220137Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 199871

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OTRA, CVIS, CH, US

SUBJECT: TRAVEL PROBLEMS WITH THE PRC

REF: A. PEKING 1415, B. PEKING 1426, C. PEKING 1425,  
D. STATE 190846, E. HONG KONG 9166, F. HONG KONG 8968,  
G. PEKING 1450

1. THE SECRETARY HAS AUTHORIZED AN APPROACH BY USLO TO  
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY AT THE DEPUTY CHIEF LEVEL TO  
EMPHASIZE OUR CONCERN OVER RECENT PROBLEMS WE HAVE  
ENCOUNTERED WITH THE PRC ON TRAVEL AND VISA MATTERS. WE  
HAVE IN MIND THE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC CASES:

A. PRC REFUSAL TO LET USLO ATTACH AN ESCORT OFFICER  
TO SENATOR PERCY'S GROUP (REFTELS A AND B AND PREVIOUS);

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B. THE PRC'S UNWILLINGNESS TO ISSUE A VISA TO HONG  
KONG CONGEN OFFICER RICHARD HART, IN APPARENT ASSERTION OF  
THE RIGHT TO BE SELECTIVE IN AUTHORIZING OFFICERS FROM OUR  
FIELD POSTS TO VISIT PEKING ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS (REFTEL C

AND PREVIOUS);

C. PRCLO'S ASSERTION AUGUST 11 THAT IT WOULD BE "INAPPROPRIATE" FOR HONG KONG CONGEN OFFICER RICHARD BOCK TO ESCORT THE US SOLID STATE PHYSICS GROUP AS OFFICIAL ESCORT (REFTEL D); AND

D. THE PRC'S REFUSAL SINCE 1973 TO PERMIT HONG KONG CONGEN PERSONNEL TO JOIN USLO OFFICERS AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL CANTON TRADE FAIR IN ORDER TO ASSIST AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN (REFTELS E, F, AND G AND PREVIOUS).

2. IN DOING SO, USLO SHOULD REVIEW BACKGROUND OF THESE PROBLEMS AND REQUEST RECONSIDERATION OF THE PRC POSITION ON THE HONG KONG CONSULATE GENERAL VISA CASES. BOCK VISA CASE, OF COURSE IS URGENT, AND WE WANT PARTICULARLY TO STRESS PRINCIPLE THAT SENDING SIDE SHOULD BE FREE TO DESIGNATE BEST QUALIFIED ESCORT. WE RECOGNIZE, HOWEVER, THAT IF CHINESE REMAIN ADAMANT WE MAY HAVE TO SUBSTITUTE USLO OFFICER WARDLAW FOR BOCK RATHER THAN PROVIDE NO ESCORT. IN DISCUSSING PROBLEM OF CONGEN PARTICIPATION IN OCTOBER FAIR, YOU MAY DRAW, AS APPROPRIATE, ON ARGUMENTATION CONTAINED IN PARA 2 REFTEL E.

3. IN COURSE OF PRESENTATION, USLO SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING SPECIFIC POINTS:

A. WE CONSIDER IT IMPORTANT THAT BOTH SIDES DO WHATEVER THEY CAN, IN THE SPIRIT OF THE SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE, TO FACILITATE THE OPERATION OF OUR RESPECTIVE LIAISON OFFICES AND TO AVOID ACTIONS THAT COMPLICATE THE ABILITY OF THE OTHER SIDE TO CONDUCT ITS OFFICIAL BUSINESS AND TO ASSIST IN EXCHANGES AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT.

B. WE BELIEVE THAT BOTH OUR GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE FREE TO SELECT THE BEST AND MOST QUALIFIED OFFICERS TO ASSIST IN OUR EXCHANGES. EACH OF OUR GOVERNMENTS SHOULD CONFIDENTIAL

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ALSO BE ABLE TO SEND ITS OFFICERS ON OFFICIAL BUSINESS TO THE OTHER'S COUNTRY WITHOUT ENCOUNTERING UNNECESSARY OBSTACLES. THE UNITED STATES, FOR ITS PART, HAS ALWAYS SOUGHT TO FACILITATE THE OPERATIONS OF THE PRC LIAISON OFFICE ON TRAVEL AND VISA MATTERS.

C. OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE AGREED THAT OUR RELATIONSHIP SHOULD BE ONE OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL BENEFIT. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THIS WILL PROVE TO BE THE CASE IN THE FUTURE AND THAT THE PRC, IN RESPONDING TO OUR REQUESTS ON TRAVEL AND VISA MATTERS, WILL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE WE HAVE TAKEN IN THE PAST IN HANDLING PRC REQUESTS.

4. IN REPORTING YOUR APPROACH, WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE  
USLO VIEWS ON LIKELIHOOD THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY WILL  
RELENT ON BOCK VISA. MAW

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 26 AUG 1999  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 22 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975STATE199871  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** EA/PRCM:JSROY:MFR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** D750290-0375  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t197508101/baaaasts.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** WITHDRAWN <10 Jun 2003 by MorefiRH, INA>; RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>; APPROVED <02 JUL 2003 by MorefiRH>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** n/a  
**TAGS:** PFOR, OTRA, CVIS, CH, US  
**To:** PEKING INFO HONG KONG  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006